

# 2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Customer Focus-

The VeenHuizen Farm in Whatcom County operates a 600-cow dairy on 450 acres used for grass and corn silage production and as pasture for replacement stock. Soils on the farm vary from well-drained sandy loam to artificially drained peat and muck. More than seven million gallons of manure and wastewater are collected, stored and annually applied to all crop fields. The nutrients in the manure provide virtually all of the nitrogen required to produce the crops.

EQIP provided an opportunity for the VeenHuizen Farm to improve their dairy operation and to demonstrate their commitment to improving water quality. Grass filter strips were planted on six acres of crop fields adjacent to field ditches. EQIP funds, supplemented with state funds, were used to provide a financial incentive to use a manure injector. The injector allowed manure to be inserted into the ground for the precise application of manure nutrients while reducing the potential for runoff, odors and atmospheric loss. Manure injection is the preferred application method and has been widely adopted by many producers. The VeenHuizen Farm was the first in the County to implement this application method.

The invitation is always open for others to see the VeenHuizen Farm and what is being accomplished and to learn first hand about the multitude of environmental and regulatory issues.

## Washington Summary

### Overview

Since its inception, land users in Washington have shown a great interest in using the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to help them protect and improve natural resources. Over 1,600 applications, requesting nearly \$40 million of EQIP funds, have been received. Washington's allocation of about \$17 million has allowed funding for just over half (860) of those applicants. The funds have been distributed through 22 Geographic Priority Areas (GPA) and two statewide priority resource concern projects. The program has been used primarily to treat natural resource issues related to water quality, soil erosion on cropland and water quantity, with about 14,000 distinct conservation practices planned in EQIP contracts. Emphasis has been placed on funding projects that have a direct impact on threatened and endangered species, especially as related to salmon.

### Accomplishments

This year, 264 producers submitted applications requesting about \$5.9 million. Washington's allocation of about \$3.3 million allowed funding for 179 contracts covering nearly 68,000 acres. This represents a shortfall of about \$2.6 million. Of the available funds, about 86 percent (\$2.9 million) were obligated within ten funded GPAs, and about 14 percent (\$464,000) was awarded to producers with statewide priority natural resource concerns. In addition to financial assistance, over \$28,000 in EQIP education funds were awarded in grants to organizations and groups promoting resource conservation throughout the State. NRCS employees in Washington devoted over 31,000 hours to administering the program this year.

### Outlook

Our outlook is for the interest as well as the need for EQIP to remain high. Since the beginning of the program, Washington's total unmet need of producer's requests is about \$23 million. In Fiscal Year 2001 alone, the total unmet need of unfunded GPAs (approved GPA applications that have not been funded) was over \$3.6 million. Additional funding would allow existing GPAs the ability to accomplish their goals and objectives as well as allow for funding of new priority areas to address the state's significant natural resource issues.

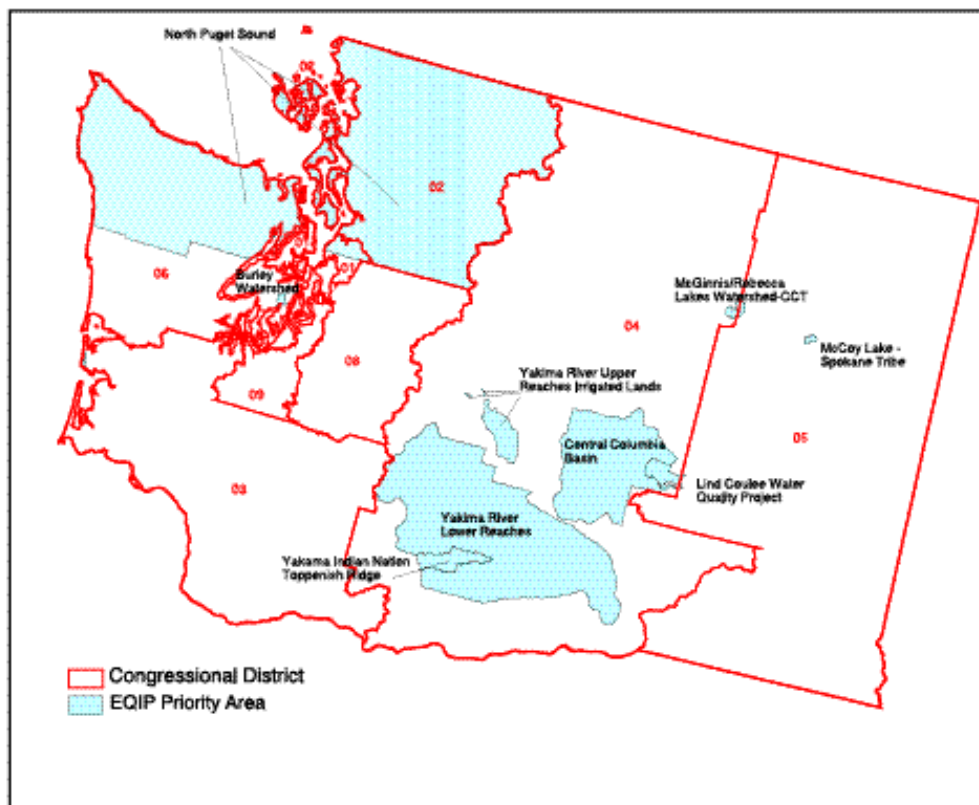
### State Contact

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Tractor pulled liquid  
manure injector

## Washington EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



## Washington EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional Districts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$ 0	0	\$0	0
District 2	617,797	30	3,188,795	152
District 3	295,826	16	1,216,618	49
District 4	1,806,309	96	7,432,290	354
District 5	467,935	27	3,954,376	244
District 6	78,063	4	449,185	24
District 7	0	0	0	0
District 8	39,712	5	422,918	30
District 9	16,555	1	102,825	7
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$3,322,197</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>\$16,767,007</b>	<b>860</b>

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